



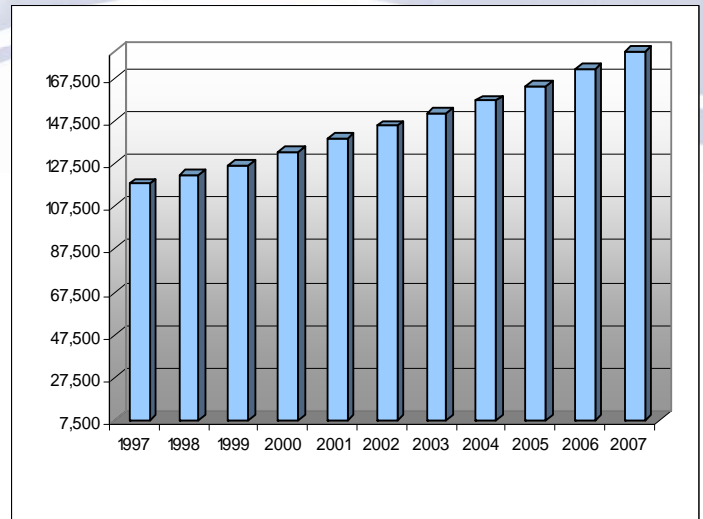
Canyon County

October 2008

Population

Canyon County is Idaho's second most populous county and the seventh smallest in geographic area. Combined with Ada County, the population of the two is now over 550,000. Many people are drawn to Canyon County because of its proximity to Ada County, Idaho's largest urban area. Many residents commute to work in Ada County and are still able to benefit from lower housing prices and a more rural atmosphere than Ada County. The population has been growing rapidly over the past decade with a total increase of 61,257 new residents up from 59,558 new residents over the decade of 1996 to 2006. The growth rate over the last decade is 51.9 percent down slightly from the 52.3 percent between 1996 and 2006 and well above the state's growth rate of 22.0 percent over the same time period. Caldwell and Nampa are Canyon County's largest cities and both rank in the top 10 cities in Idaho in terms of population. Nampa is second and Caldwell is eighth.

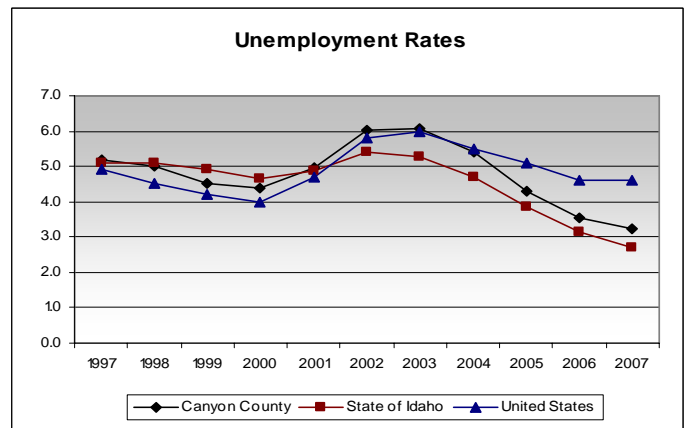
Work Force Trends



Labor Force & Employment

The Canyon County civilian labor force exhibited strong growth throughout the past decade, increasing by 23,867, a growth of 40.1 percent. While robust, this is a little less than the 44.1 percent increase in labor force over the years 1996 to 2006 and the 45.8 percent increase over the years 1995 to 2005. The unemployment rate in 2006 was a decade low 3.6 percent and like Ada County was bested in 2007 coming in at 3.3 percent. Like other southwestern Idaho counties Canyon County's unemployment rate was below the rate commonly considered full employment.

For the second year in a row, nearly every industry in Canyon County added jobs including the manufacturing sector which grew by a healthy 3.8 percent. Despite the growth in manufacturing, this sector is below its 1997 level of over 11,000 jobs. As in nearby Ada County construction was down in 2007 by 674 jobs. This decline in construction is due to the lagging national economy, the slowdown in population growth, stagnating wages and significantly higher costs of living that includes everything from fuel to food. Despite the decline in

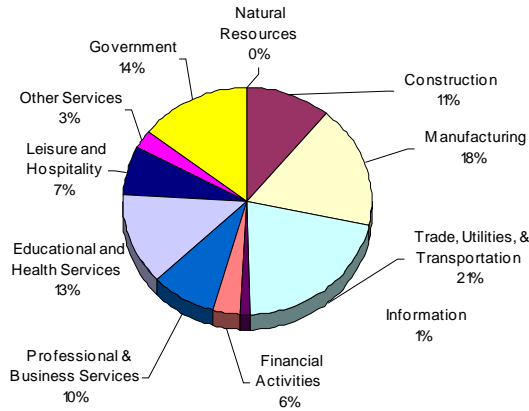


2007, there were over 3,000 more construction jobs in 2007 than in 1997 in Canyon County making this industry over twice the size it was ten years ago. Trade experienced more growth in 2007 as new shopping centers Treasure Valley Market Place and Gateway began and continued adding national big box retailers. What did happen though is due to a softening economy toward the end of 2007 not as many holiday workers were hired thus leaving stores with only necessary staff to keep operations running thus reducing the number of new jobs in this industry. Government continued its increase, mostly in the local government education sector as the expanding population continues to require more and more services.

Labor Force	Sep 2007	Sep 2008
Civilian Labor Force	83,160	82,968
Total Employment	80,570	77,820
Unemployed	2,590	5,148
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.1	6.2
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.7	5.0
U.S. % Unemployed	4.7	6.1

Labor Force	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Civilian Labor Force	59,549	62,126	63,637	66,038	69,072	70,635	73,113	75,078	78,080	81,828	83,519
Unemployment	3,109	3,124	2,887	2,907	3,435	4,267	4,434	4,054	3,340	2,899	2,715
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.2	5.0	4.5	4.4	5.0	6.0	6.1	5.4	4.3	3.5	3.3
Employment	56,440	59,002	60,750	63,131	65,638	66,368	68,680	71,024	74,739	78,928	80,804

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2007



Per Capita Income & Employment

Despite its proximity to Ada County and the heavy commuting into that county, Canyon County ranks 41st in the state in per capita income at \$21,511, well below the state average of \$29,920 and the national average of \$36,714. Canyon County's heavy dependence on the agriculture industry for jobs and larger-than-average family size are largely responsible for the lower per capita income.

Wages in Canyon County range from a low of \$11,031 in leisure and hospitality up to \$35,056 in professional and business services while a small percentage of the work force earns over \$39,000 in the mining industry. The majority of covered employment is in manufacturing, trade, agriculture and services.

Major Employers

Amalgamated Sugar Co.
Caldwell School District
Canyon County
City of Nampa
J.R. Simplot
Mercy Medical Center
MPC Computers
Nampa School District
Plexus Corp
Woodgrain Millwork Inc
Vallivue School District
Wal-Mart
West Valley Medical Center

Occupational Wages* Starting Wage

Home Health Aides	\$7.86
Licensed Practical Nurses	\$14.67
Registered Nurses	\$18.70
Welders	\$10.08
Billing and Posting Clerks	\$11.02
Automotive Service Technicians	\$10.50
Truck Drivers, Heavy	\$11.03
Agricultural Workers	\$6.55
File Clerks	\$9.28
Fork Lift Driver	\$8.98
Landscaping Workers	\$8.30

* Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor Web site at lmi.idaho.gov.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1997, 2006, & 2007	1997		2006		2007	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	42,403	\$22,535	55,032	\$29,319	57,102	\$29,668
Agriculture	2,940	\$15,265	2,750	\$25,277	2,722	\$24,688
Mining	38	\$58,685	68	\$44,694	68	\$39,271
Construction	2,897	\$24,858	6,595	\$29,092	5,895	\$30,263
Manufacturing	11,099	\$27,607	9,370	\$34,543	9,727	\$34,555
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	7,823	\$21,406	10,841	\$29,953	11,709	\$30,087
Information	635	\$26,203	594	\$34,991	640	\$33,908
Financial Activities	1,173	\$23,158	1,913	\$34,454	1,925	\$35,064
Professional and Business Services	2,202	\$18,948	4,318	\$28,572	4,559	\$30,858
Educational and Health Services	4,458	\$24,972	6,243	\$29,597	6,645	\$30,096
Leisure and Hospitality	2,650	\$7,769	3,556	\$10,783	3,798	\$11,012
Other Services	955	\$16,090	1,285	\$23,268	1,562	\$23,890
Government	5,534	\$23,447	7,498	\$31,681	7,854	\$31,635

Per Capita Income	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Canyon County	\$17,400	\$18,433	\$19,153	\$19,716	\$19,775	\$19,360	\$19,228	\$19,652	\$20,467	\$21,511
State of Idaho	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,077	\$25,024	\$25,221	\$25,524	\$27,361	\$28,301	\$29,920
United States	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,843	\$30,574	\$30,821	\$31,504	\$33,123	\$34,757	\$36,714

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:
Idaho Department of Labor
6107 Graye Lane
Caldwell, ID 83607-8072 Ph: (208) 364-7781

labor.idaho.gov

This publication is produced by Idaho Department of Labor funded at least in part by federal grants from the U. S. Department of Labor. Costs associated with this specific publication are available by contacting Idaho Department of Labor.

Idaho Department of Labor is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Dial 711 for TTY Idaho Relay Service.